

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL TEMPLATE

(Applicants can use this template, when initiating partnerships with partners from Donor or other eligible countries)

Call for project proposal:

Active citizens Fund Croatia – Large projects

<https://acfcroatia.hr>

Main objectives of the project:

Main aim of this project is the empowerment of youth through education and the acquisition of competences for learning and active participation in digital society. Such competences refer to the ability to engage positively, critically and competently in the digital environment, as well as to practice forms of social participation that are respectful of human rights and dignity through the responsible use of technology.

Project specific objectives are:

- To develop the ability of youth to engage competently and positively with digital technologies (creating, working, sharing, socializing, investigating, playing, communicating and learning);
- To encourage youth to participate actively and responsibly (values, skills, attitudes, knowledge and critical understanding) in communities (local, national, global) at all levels (political, economic, social, cultural and intercultural);
- To ensure that youth are using digital technologies while fully respecting human rights and dignity.

Issues the project wants to tackle:

Young people today inhabit a world that has been transformed by digital technologies, effortlessly enabling connectedness through social media and access to vast quantities of information. Making sense of this hyper rich information and engaging effectively and responsibly poses a whole set of new challenges for educators as they seek to prepare young people as citizens, exercising their rights and participating effectively in the affairs of the community. The importance of digital technologies as a tool for the active participation of young people in the community is especially emphasized in the current situation caused by the COVID-19 coronavirus, in which they can contribute to the acquisition of skills and knowledge of young people and encourage their inclusion, regardless of movement restrictions.

The Republic of Croatia does not have an official educational policy in the field of digital citizenship (Kanižaj, Car and Kralj 2014). The Croatian curriculum lacks a comprehensive media literacy program at all levels (International Exchange Alumni 2015), creating a gap in the awareness of parents and children about the importance of media literacy (Zvonarić 2016a). Informal education programs implemented by civil society organizations (e.g. GONG) help to bridge the gap through programs and activities that increase the competences of children, young people and their parents in the field of digital citizenship.

Accordingly, this project directly contributes to solving the problem of underdeveloped competences of young people in the field of digital citizenship, as a precondition for their active and responsible participation (especially in the current conditions and limitations) in the social community.

Solutions it proposes:

In order to address the above described issues, this project envisages the implementation of a set of activities aimed at empowering, informing and educating target groups in the field of digital citizenship, focusing on vulnerable social groups through intergenerational solidarity and intercultural dialogue:

- Introducing and educating participants in the field of digital technologies as tools for creating, working, sharing, socializing, exploring, playing, communicating and learning;
- Introducing and educating participants in the field of using digital technologies as a tool for active participation in a democratic society (digital citizenship);
- Intercultural dialogue with young people from partner countries through the use of digital technologies to share experiences and examples of good practices in the field of digital citizenship;
- Promoting digital citizenship for young people through the development and dissemination of a tangible project output - digital booklet on the characteristics, meaning and tools of digital citizenship.

Main target groups:

The main target groups of the project are:

- Youth without parental care in the local community, aged 13-18, from the City of Samobor;
- Elementary school students aged 10 to 14 from the City of Samobor and the City of Sveta Nedelja;
- High school students from the City of Samobor;
- Young people aged 10 to 18 from partner countries participating in digital workshops to share experiences and good practices;
- Members of the Association (social workers, social pedagogues, psychologists and teachers) participating in workshops for the purpose of intergenerational transfer of experiences and for providing professional support for the development of young participants' skills.

Foreseen role/contribution of the partner:

The project envisages the following partner roles:

- Involvement of young people aged 10 to 18 and professional staff in digital workshops to share experiences and examples of good practices from their countries / local communities in the field of digital citizenship;
- Participation in shaping tangible results of the project (researching and shaping results on the characteristics, meaning and tools of digital citizenship in their national context);
- Active participation in ensuring visibility and dissemination of project results.

Contact person:

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About the organization:

Positiva Samobor is an association, a non-governmental organization established in 2011. with the main aim to design programs for developing skills of young people, discover their talents as well as to teach them to take actions and responsibilities. We want to provide youth with adequate tools and motivation to activate their minds and bodies in order to become great leaders of 21st century.

Goal of our holistic approach in developing the organization and its programs is to engage children and youth in community by using non-formal education. We are trying to direct young people to take action through which they will challenge themselves and gain valuable experience.

We feel responsible to take part in sustainable development of the world. We are focused on working with young people who will be the strong ones and competent enough to bring desired changes and reach goals set for sustainable development of the world.

Our work is based on 5 key values:

- together is better (collaboration with all sectors, intercultural exchange)
- development of mentoring culture (be a mentor, ask for mentor, reach for help)
- be approachable (promote, disseminate, be open-minded)
- be responsible and authentic (synchronize your thoughts, words and actions)
- challenge yourself to be a better human (learn, teach, help, train, exercise...)

Our hopes and wishes are to be consistent in our strategy and values in order to win the challenges ahead of us. That way we can reach our goals, be innovative and make an impact.

Main target group of the organization are young people between 15 and 30 years old. In accordance with inclusion strategy and priorities of the organization, special focus of our programs is on young people with fewer opportunities.

Regular activities of the organization are implemented under 2 basic strands of Strategy of the organization: Sustainable childhood & adulthood (and sub-strands (1) Ecology & Environmental protection; (2) Healthy lifestyle & promotion of sports) and Success factory (and sub-strands (1) Activism & Participation; (2) Youth Entrepreneurship & Social Entrepreneurship).

Organization is developing and implementing projects within Erasmus+ (17 projects), European Social Fund (4 projects) and Europe for Citizens (1 project).

Positiva Samobor is the only association working in the field of children of youth in the local community (City of Samobor and City of Sveta Nedelja). By implementing various programs and activities association gained support of local stakeholders such as local self-government, public institutions (library, theatre, Youth centre), local Chamber of trades and crafts, centre for social care, Hostel Samobor, schools etc. Some of the regular activities that association implements in cooperation with mentioned partners are volunteering activities, public events aimed at gathering public opinion ("Pozitiva na otvorenom"), volunteering workshops, lectures related to entrepreneurial skills, Defying Gravity festival, Nova sfera zdravlja, Erasmus+ projects and other various local actions. Only

throughout its Erasmus+ projects Pozitiva Samobor involved over 350 young people in its activities, among which some continued to volunteer for the association or even started their own organizations (e.g. twin organization Positiva Milano). Association received institutional support from National foundation for development of civil society for the period from 2017. to 2019.